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POSTAL ADMINISTRATION RESTORES NATION-WIDE SERVICE

NATION HAS 29 POSTAL DISTRICTS -- Wen-hui Pao, 21 Feb 50

Pei-p'ing, 16 February (Hsin-hua) -- Rapid progress has been made in the restoration of nation-wide postal service since 1 January 1950, when the Postal Administration for the whole country was established in Pei-p'ing. What were formerly the postal administrations of the various regions are now the branches of the Central Postal Administration. Thus, the Postal and Telegraph Administration of the Northeast government has become the Northeast branch of the Central Postal Administration and the Central Telecommunications Administration. In the newly liberated areas of Southwest China, branches of the Postal Administration and Telecommunications Administration have already been established.

At present, the Central Postal Administration controls the various postal districts of the large regions, as follows:

The Northeast region has five postal districts: Shen-yang, Ch'ang-ch'un, Harbin, Ch'i-ch'i-ha-erh, Chin-chou.

The North China region has four postal districts: Pei-p'ing, T'ien-ching, Shansi, P'ingyuan.

The Northwest region has four postal districts: Shensi, North Shensi, Kansu-Ningsia-Tsinghai, Sinkiang.

The East China region has six postal districts. Shang-hai, Kiangsu, Shantung, Anhwei, Chekiang, Fukien.

The Central and Southern region has six postal districts: Honan, Hupeh, Hunan, Kiangsi, Kwangtung, Kwangsi.

The Southwest region has four postal districts: Kweichow, Yunnan, Western Szechwan, Eastern Szechwan.

This makes a total of 29 postal districts. Besides these, the Inner Mongolian postal district is temporarily autonomous; and the Taiwan postal district will be organized after liberation.

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Ordinary letter mail is being handled at all large and small post offices all over the country. Practically all the cities have parcel-post facilities. Funds can be transferred between all parts of the country by postal remittances. As of 19 January 1950, there were 2,001 post offices handling postal remittances, distributed as follows: Northeast region, 152 offices; North China region, 451; Northwest region, 135; East China region, 809; and Central and South region, 454 offices.

The same service will shortly be available in the newly liberated districts in Kwangtung, Kwangsi, Kweichow, Yunnan, Eastern and Western Szechwan, and Sinkiang. Mail matter to and from other countries continues to be handled as in the past; that for the USSR and the democratic countries of eastern Europe is handled through the USSR via the Transsiberian Railroad. Practically all mail for other destinations is handled through Hong Kong. For the convenience of overseas Chinese, air mail is handled through Hong Kong. International parcel-post service is now available only with the Soviet Union through the post office at Shang-hai. The Pei-p'ing and T'ien-ching post offices will soon be handling this service. The Soviet Union is already dispatching parcel-post mail sacks to Pei-p'ing, T'ien-ching, and Shang-hai. The Postal Administration has not yet resumed the handling of postal remittances between China and other countries.

Under existing financial, economic, and communication conditions, numerous difficulties and problems are encountered. Among these are:

1. Inadequate railroad transport facilities for the amount of mail matter to be moved, which results in accumulation and delays.
2. In the Northwest, motor trucks have to be used and they are insufficient, inefficient, and uneconomical; hence, promptness has to be sacrificed to economy.
3. Under the former regime, local governments made up the postal deficits of the rural regions where the revenue is small and the costs are great. But under the present government the postal system is unified, and for the sake of the masses of rural people, the Central government is maintaining the postal service by means of subsidies where necessary.

In view of the financial and economic conditions prevailing at present, the policy of the Postal Administration is to endeavor to restore the previously existing postal services and to reorganize them so as to attain greater efficiency, to develop the services on the existing foundation so as to equal or surpass the goal adopted for 1950, to be frugal so as to keep necessary subsidies to a minimum, to facilitate national unification, to give better service to the public, and to strive to realize the objectives of the New Democracy.

REDUCE PARCEL-POST RATES 20 PERCENT -- Kung-shang Jih-pao, 23 Feb 50

Kuang-chou, 22 February -- The Central Postal Administration has announced a general reduction of 20 percent in domestic parcel-post charges, to lighten the financial burden of the public, in view of the improvement in and lessening costs of transportation. The new schedule, which is to go into effect immediately, is as follows.

For parcels, per kilogram in people's yuan

1st class	7,610
2d "	5,310
3d "	3,140
4th "	2,020

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For small packages, per 100 grams, in people's yuan

1st class	1,522
2d "	1,074
3d "	628
4th "	404

For book post, per 100 grams, in people's yuan

1st class	457
2d "	322
3d "	188
4th "	121

POST OFFICES PROVIDE COD AND PURCHASING SERVICES -- Wen-hui Pao, 24 Feb 50

Hong Kong -- A business man recently returned from Heng-yang, Hunan, states that post offices in Hunan, Hupeh, Kiangsi, Kwangtung, and Kwangsi which handle postal money order business are now providing COD parcel-post services within the five provinces mentioned. In addition, these post offices in Hunan are trying out, within the province only, a mail-order purchasing service. According to this plan, after the purchaser and merchant have come to terms through the medium of catalogs or by other means, the buyer remits the purchase price plus transportation charges to the post office where the seller is located. The post office then pays the latter, takes delivery of the goods and sends them by prepaid parcel post to the buyer. Merchants are permitted, within certain limits, to display advertising posters with prices etc., on the premises of the post offices. It is anticipated that this service will be of great convenience to both consumers and producers and thus stimulate greater economic activity.

NATIONALIST CHINA MAINTAINS TELEGRAPHIC AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS -- Kung-shang Jih-pao, 24 Feb 50

Taiwan, 23 February (Reuters) -- According to Chen Liang, Minister of Communications, telegraph service between territories still under Nationalist (KMT) control and Britain and other countries that have broken off diplomatic relations with Nationalist China, will be maintained as usual. Minister Chen further stated that commercial relations still exist and that the privileges pertaining thereto will be maintained.

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